

(12) INTERNATIONAL APPLICATION PUBLISHED UNDER THE PATENT COOPERATION TREATY (PCT)

(19) World Intellectual Property Organization
International Bureau



(43) International Publication Date
20 November 2003 (20.11.2003)

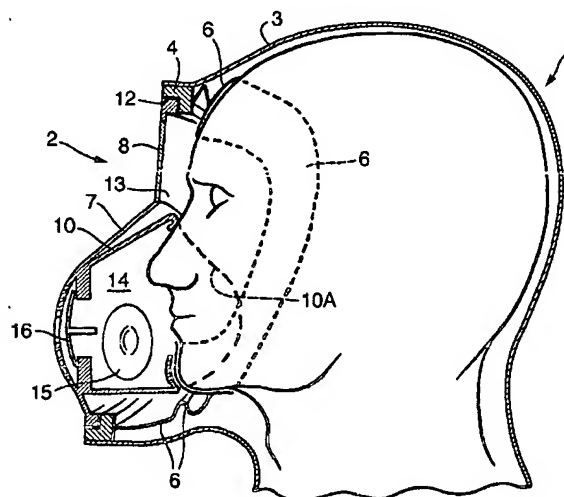
PCT

(10) International Publication Number
WO 03/095031 A1

- (51) International Patent Classification⁷: A62B 18/04 (74) Agent: OBEE, Robert, William; IP QinetiQ Formalities, Cody Technology Park, A4 Building, Room G016, Ively Road, Farnborough, Hampshire GU14 0LX (GB).
- (21) International Application Number: PCT/GB03/01776
- (22) International Filing Date: 25 April 2003 (25.04.2003) (81) Designated States (*national*): AE, AG, AL, AM, AT, AU, AZ, BA, BB, BG, BR, BY, BZ, CA, CH, CN, CO, CR, CU, CZ, DE, DK, DM, DZ, EC, EE, ES, FI, GB, GD, GE, GH, GM, HR, HU, ID, IL, IN, IS, JP, KE, KG, KP, KR, KZ, LC, LK, LR, LS, LT, LU, LV, MA, MD, MG, MK, MN, MW, MX, MZ, NI, NO, NZ, OM, PH, PL, PT, RO, RU, SC, SD, SE, SG, SK, SL, TJ, TM, TN, TR, TT, TZ, UA, UG, US, UZ, VC, VN, YU, ZA, ZM, ZW.
- (25) Filing Language: English
- (26) Publication Language: English
- (30) Priority Data: 0210417.2 8 May 2002 (08.05.2002) GB (84) Designated States (*regional*): ARIPO patent (GH, GM, KE, LS, MW, MZ, SD, SL, SZ, TZ, UG, ZM, ZW), Eurasian patent (AM, AZ, BY, KG, KZ, MD, RU, TJ, TM), European patent (AT, BE, BG, CH, CY, CZ, DE, DK, EE, ES, FI, FR, GB, GR, HU, IE, IT, LU, MC, NL, PT, RO, SE, SI, SK, TR), OAPI patent (BF, BJ, CF, CG, CI, CM, GA, GN, GQ, GW, ML, MR, NE, SN, TD, TG).
- (71) Applicant (*for all designated States except US*): QINETIQ LIMITED [GB/GB]; Registered Office, 85 Buckingham Gate, London SW1E 6PD (GB).
- (72) Inventors; and
- (75) Inventors/Applicants (*for US only*): BRIDGES, Peter, Clive [GB/GB]; QinetiQ Farnborough, Cody Technology Park, Ively Road, Farnborough, Hampshire GU14 0LX (GB). HUGGINS, Adrian [GB/GB]; QinetiQ Farnborough, Cody Technology Park, Ively Road, Farnborough, Hampshire GU14 0LX (GB). SHORT, Barry [GB/GB]; 12 Brookly Gardens, Fleet, Hampshire GU51 3LL (GB).
- Declaration under Rule 4.17:
— of inventorship (Rule 4.17(iv)) for US only
- Published:
— with international search report

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(54) Title: RESPIRATOR ASSEMBLY



(57) Abstract: A respirator assembly e.g. for NBC protection is formed from two separate sub-assemblies (1 and 2). The first sub-assembly (1) comprises a flexible hood (3) (or other suitable headgear), a rigid mounting ring (4) and a peripheral face seal (6). The second sub-assembly (2) comprises a face plate (7) with lens (8), oronasal mask (10) and inlet and outlet valves (15, 16), and is demountably attachable to the ring (4). The first sub-assembly can be worn on its own with the user breathing ambient air through the open front, the second sub-assembly being added if and when a hazard is encountered. The positioning of the face seal (6) in the first sub-assembly means that a comfortable and reliable fit can be ensured when that sub-assembly is donned prior to a mission, but the user is relieved of the physiological burden of wearing the complete respirator unless and until protection is required.

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